

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5-8, 25, and 27-40 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 27, 33, and 37 have been amended. Claims 1, 27, 33, and 37 are independent claims. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the outstanding rejections in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Status of Claims 38-40

The Examiner pointed out that claims 38-40 did not appear in the listing of claims in either the Amendment filed October 31, 2007 or the Supplemental Amendment filed June 20, 2007. Also, neither of these submissions by Applicants indicated that claims 38-40 were canceled. Thus, the Examiner requested clarification of the status of these claims.

In response, Applicants wish to clarify that claims 38-40 are still pending in this application, and that their omission was due to inadvertent error. Accordingly, claims 38-40 have been listed above with the other pending claims. Applicants further thank the Examiner for pointing out this error.

Interview of April 4, 2008

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Aaron Strange for taking the time to discuss the present application with Applicants' representative, Jason Rhodes (Reg. No. 47,305), during the personal interview conducted on April 4, 2008.

Claims Discussed: Independent claims 1, 27, 33, and 37.

Prior Art Discussed: U.S. Patent No. 6,167,448 to Hemphill et al. (Hemphill); U.S. Patent No. 6,434,568 to Bowman-Amuah (hereafter "Bowman-Amuah"); and U.S. Patent No. 6,122,372 to Hughes (hereafter "Hughes").

Proposed Claim Amendments: Proposed amendments for claims 1, 27, 33, and 37 were presented by Applicants' representative for discussion. Claims 1, 27, and 33 have been amended above based on the proposed amendments discussed during the interview. As to claim 37, the proposed amendment has also been incorporated into this claim, accompanied by further amendment as discussed below.

General Results: Agreement was reached that the proposed claim amendments would overcome the current grounds of rejection. However, the Examiner indicated that an update search would be required. As to claim 37, agreement was reached on an additional amendment to further clarify that the plugin identifier identifies a plugin stored at the destination location which is to be plugged into the application. The parties agreed that clarification would help further distinguish over the applied references.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 25, 32, and 36 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, 1st paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the feature, "wherein the [first] software envelope contains the plugin" was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventors had possession of the claimed invention at the time the application was filed. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the aforementioned claim feature is supported in claim 17 ("...generating a software envelope containing the data file and the plugin object") of the originally filed application. Further, in compliance with MPEP § 2163.06.III, Applicants have amended the specification above to include the claimed subject matter which is supported in the claims as filed in the original specification.

In view of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this objection.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 25, 33-36 and 38-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hemphill. This rejection, insofar as it pertains to the presently pending claims, is respectfully traversed.

As amended, claims 1 and 33 now more clearly recite using the selected plugin to parse the data file into a plurality of data fields according to the predetermined schema. This amendment is supported in the original specification at, e.g., the paragraph bridging pages 11-12.

Applicants submit that Hemphill fails to teach or suggest this feature. In this rejection, Hemphill's Event Action Script (EAS) is being relied upon for the claimed plugin. However, Hemphill teaches that the Event Notification Message (ENM), including the Document (relied upon for the claimed data file), has already been parsed before the EAS is executed. See Hemphill at col. 11, table illustrating the contents of the EAS. Also, see Hemphill at col. 11, lines 2-6 (indicating that the EAS merely defines actions to be taken in response to the management event); and col. 13, 39-47 (indicating that the event processor logic 222 parses the ENM before executing any executable code in the ENM).

At least for the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 33 are allowable. Accordingly, claims 5, 6, 8, 25, and 34-36 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on claims 1 and 33. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Hemphill/Official Notice

Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hemphill in view of the Examiner's taking of Official Notice. Specifically, the Examiner takes official notice that sending messages via electronic mail was old and well known at the time the invention was

made. It is respectfully submitted that such teachings fail to remedy the deficiencies of Hemphill set forth above in connection with independent claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 7 is allowable at least by virtue of its dependency on claim 7. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Hemphill/Hughes/Bowman-Amuah

Claims 27-29, 31, 32, and 37-40¹ stand rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hemphill in view of Hughes and Bowman-Amuah. This rejection, insofar as it pertains to the presently pending claims, is respectfully traversed.

As amended, independent claims 27 and 37 now more clearly recite that the format of the first software envelope is actually used by the application in the destination location to automatically generate the reply software envelope by swapping the forward and return routing information. None of Hemphill, Hughes, and Bowman-Amuah teaches or suggests automatically generating the software reply envelope as such. It is respectfully submitted that the cited teachings of Hughes merely suggests including sender and recipient ID's within an encapsulated message, without providing any teaching or suggestion of automatically generating a reply envelope by swapping the sender and recipient ID's. Thus, Applicants submit that the cited references fail to teach or suggest every feature recited in independent claims 27 and 37.

Further, as to independent claims 37, this claim has further been amended to clarify that that the plugin identifier identifies a plugin stored at the destination location which is to be plugged into the application. This feature is neither taught nor suggested by Hemphill, Hughes, or Bowman-Amuah. In fact, Hemphill disclosure that the EAS is to be transmitted as part of the ENM teaches away from the aforementioned claim feature. Thus, Applicants submit that claim 37 is allowable for this additional reason.

¹ See Office Action at page 2, 2nd paragraph, indicating that claims 38-40 should be considered rejected under the same rationale set forth for claims 28, 29, and 32.

At least for the reasons set forth above, Applicants submit that independent claims 27 and 37 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, claims 28, 29, 31, 32, and 38-40 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on claims 27 and 37. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Hemphill/Hughes/Bowman-Amuah/Official Notice

Claim 30 stands rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hemphill, Hughes, and Bowman-Amuah in view of the Examiner's taking of Official Notice. Again, the Examiner takes official notice that sending messages via electronic mail was old and well known at the time the invention was made. Since this fails to remedy the deficiencies of Hemphill, Hughes, and Bowman-Amuah set forth above in connection with independent claim 27, Applicants submit that claim 30 is allowable at least by virtue of its dependency on claim 27. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the outstanding rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance in the present application.

Should the Examiner believe that any outstanding matters remain in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Jason W. Rhodes (Reg. No. 47,305) at the telephone number of the undersigned to discuss the present application in an effort to expedite prosecution.


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Amendment dated May 13, 2008
Reply to Office Action of February 13, 2008

Docket No.: 5486-0139PUS2

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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